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PART - IV

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA DISTRICT COUNCIL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR

NOTIFICATIONS

The 15th December, 2011.

No.DC.VII/GenI/PF/9/94-2011/45.—Under the Provision of Section 3 and 4 of the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills District (Christian Marriage) Act, 1954 (Act No. 11 of 1954) *read* with Section 9 of the Indian Christian Marriage, Act 1872, the Executive Committee, Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council is pleased to grant Licenses to the following persons belonging to the Church of God, Business Association, Meghalaya and Assam authorising each to grant Certificate(s) of Marriage or Marriages between person(s) both of whom are Christian living within the jurisdiction of the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council subject however, to revocation at any time as may be notified.

<u>Sl. No.</u>	<u>Names</u>
1.	Rev. Pynksanbor Shadap
2.	Rev. Rejoy Sing Thabah
3.	Rev. Wenry Lyngdoh
4.	Rev. Seroland Thabah
5.	Rev. Morstar Sing Syiemiong
6.	Rev. Wanchwa Dame Suting
7.	Rev. Firstborn Suting

W. SYIEMLIEH,

Secretary to the Executive Committee,
Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council,
Shillong.

The 15th December, 2011.

No.DC.VII/GenI/156/94-2011/11.—Under the Provision of Section 3 and 4 of the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills District (Christian Marriage) Act, 1954 (Act No. 11 of 1954) *read* with Section 9 of the Indian Christian Marriage, Act 1872, the Executive Committee, Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council is pleased to grant Licenses to the following Pastors belonging to the Christ National Church authorising each to grant Certificate(s) of Marriage or Marriages between person(s) both of whom are Christian living within the jurisdiction of the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council subject however, to revocation at any time as may be notified.

<u>Sl. No.</u>	<u>Names</u>
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- | | |
|----|--------------------------------|
| 1. | Pastor Ronington Majaw |
| 2. | Pastor Mohan Kumar Rai |
| 3. | Pastor Nick Alton Nongrum |
| 4. | Pastor Wilson Reeves Nongkhlaw |

W. SYIEMLIH,

Secretary to the Executive Committee,
Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council,
Shillong.

The 16th December, 2011.

No.DC.VII/GenI/106/2004-2011/121.—Under the Provision of Section 3 and 4 of the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills District (Christian Marriage) Act, 1954 (United Khasi-Jaintia Hills) (Act No. 11 of 1954) *read* with Section 6 of the Indian Christian Marriage, Act 1872, (Act No. XV of 1872), the Executive Committee, Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council is pleased to grant Licenses to the following Revd. named below of Khasi Jaintia Presbyterian Synod Mihngi authorising each to grant Certificate(s) of Marriage or Marriages between two person(s) one or both of whom is or are Christian living within the jurisdiction of the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council subject however, to revocation at any time as may be notified.

<u>Sl. No.</u>	<u>Names</u>
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|----|--------------------------|
| 1. | Revd. E. F. Sohtun |
| 2. | Revd. Pradeep Nongkynrih |
| 3. | Revd. Rosterwell Phanbuh |

W. SYIEMLIH,

Secretary to the Executive Committee,
Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council,
Shillong.

The 16th December, 2011.

No.DC.VII/Genl/106/2004-2011/120.—The Executive Committee, Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council is pleased to revoke with immediate effect the Marriage Licenses to the following Revd. named below belonging to the Khasi Jaintia Presbyterian Synod Mihngi granted under Section 9 of the Act 872 vide Notification's No.DC.VII/Genl/PF/282/92-2003/50, dated 6th June, 2003 duly published in the Gazette No. 32 Part-IV, dated 7th August, 2003; No.DC.VII/Genl/PF/282/92-04/94, dated 30th June, 2004 duly published in the Gazette No. 32 Part-IV, dated 5th August, 2004; No.DC.VII/Genl/282/92/17, dated 18th August, 1994 duly published in the Gazette No. 19 Part-IV, dated 15th September, 1994.

<u>Sl. No.</u>	<u>Names</u>
1.	Revd. E. F. Sohtun
2.	Revd. Pradeep Nongkynrih
3.	Revd. Rosterwell Phanbuh

W. SYIEMLIEH,
Secretary to the Executive Committee,
Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council,
Shillong.

The 22nd December, 2011.

No. DC.III/Law/39/2010-11. – In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 11 of the Khasi Hills Autonomous District (Nomination and Election of the Syiem, Deputy Syiem and Headmen of Langrin Syiemship) Act 2007, here in after called the “Principal Act”, the Executive Committee, Khasi Hills Autonomous District is pleased to approve the following Rules for effective implementation of the provisions of the said Act, namely: -

THE ADMINISTRATION OF LANGRIN SYIEMSHIP RULES, 2010

PREAMBLE:

WHEREAS, Section 11 of the Khasi Hills Autonomous District (Nomination and Election of the Syiem, Deputy Syiem and Headmen of Langrin Syiemship) Act, 2007, empowered the Executive Durbar to make Rules for the day to day general and as well as revenue administration of the Syiemship in accordance with the prevailing customary practices and its administrative rights which have been in practice since time immemorial.

And whereas it is expedient to safeguard and preserve the prevailing customary practices of Langrin Syiemship which have been in practice since time immemorial and to make such provisions for the smooth functioning of Langrin Syiemship.

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred upon it as aforesaid and of all other power enabling it in that behalf hereby made and framed “The Administration of Langrin Syiemship Rules, 2010” as follows: -

1. Short Titles, extent and commencement.

- (i) These Rules shall be called as The Administration of Langrin Syiemship Rules, 2010.
- (ii) They shall apply to the whole of Langrin Syiemship.
- (iii) They shall come into force at once.

2. Definitions: In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expression shall have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them as follows: -

- (1) “Act” means the Khasi Hills Autonomous District (Nomination and Election of the Syiem, Deputy Syiem and Headmen of Langrin Syiemship) Act, 2007, as amended.

- (2) “Dorbar Shnong” means a recognized village Durbar comprising of all male adults of Khasi households who are the recognized residents of a village duly approved by the Syiem and Dorbar of Langrin Syiemship.
- (3) “Additional Subordinate District Council Court” means the Additional Subordinate District Council Court of Langrin Syiemship duly constituted under the provision of the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills Autonomous District (Administration of Justice) Rules, 1953, as amended.
- (4) “Village Court” means a court of any village or group of villages within the jurisdiction of Langrin Syiemship duly constituted under the provision of the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills Autonomous District (Administration of Justice) Rules, 1953, as amended.
- (5) “Executive Dorbar Shnong” means a committee of the Sordar/Headman and some Khasi male elders as may be constituted by Durbar Shnong concerned duly confirmed and approved by the Syiem and Durbar.
- (6) “Secretary Hima” means an official of the Dorbar Hima with adequate knowledge and experience in the affairs of the Hima duly appointed from among Khasi adults and assigned with such designation by the Syiem and Durbar, who is also a member of the Durbar Hima.
- (7) “Shnong” means a village having clear boundary mark with human habitation and economic activities duly recognized by the Syiem and Durbar and confirmed by the Executive Committee.
- (8) “Secretary Shnong” means an adult Khasi male who is a resident with knowledge in the administration of a village, duly appointed and assigned as such by the Durbar Shnong concerned and recognized by the Syiem and Durbar.
- (9) “Rules” means the Administration of Langrin Syiemship Rules, 2010.
- (10) “Market” means business as well as place of business within the territorial area of Langrin, where persons are allowed for transactions of business either daily, weekly or bi-weekly for sale or purchase of goods for transaction inside or outside the Syiemship and include hats, bazaar, fare and melas. Market may be private market or Syiemship market.
- (11) “Customary Tolls” means a collection of tolls from all produce or goods meant for business purpose and transport within or outside the Syiemship as may be determined by Dubar Hima and include Musur/Royalty, Bainguh Syiem, Khajna – Ri – Jingri.
- (12) “Ka Bainguh Syiem” means a customary toll levied on every carrier of goods transacted or passing through the Syiemship as a token of respect to the Syiemship.
- (13) “Ka Musur” means a customary toll levied on all goods or merchandise entering into the Syiemship markets or which are transacted outside the Syiemship markets.
- (14) “U Synniang u Bynhei” means a voluntary contribution either in cash or in kind by i Khun ki Hajar and all other residents of the Hima towards the fund of the Syiemship in time of need such calamity reliefs, ceremonial rituals and other purposes duly authorized by the Dubar Hima.
- (15) “House Tax” means a toll collected annually for settling in the land of the Hima by subjects or non Khasi.

- (16) “Khajna Ri Jingri” means a customary toll on animals kept or reared in the Hima for commercial purpose with amount as may be determined by the Syiem and Durbar.
- (17) “Nerik” means the amount of customary toll as may be prescribed by the Syiem and Durbar and approved by the Durbar Hima.
- (18) “Lynti Shnong” means a public road or footpath use by the Nongshong Shnong (villagers) and other persons and recognized as such by the village Dorbar and includes a “Kharai”.
- (19) “Goods” means commodities or merchandise or wares including minerals and forest products transports by road or any form of transport.
- (20) “Land” means any part of the earth’s surface or immovable property which includes benefits arising out of land, and things attached to the earth or permanently fastened to anything attached to the earth and any right in or over it.
- (21) “Rangbah Shnong” means a village Headman having the same power as a Sordar.
- (22) “Appropriate Authority” means and includes authority under the Central or State Governments including the District Council.
- (23) “Syiem Clan” means the Syiemiong clan who are the descendants from the womb of Ka Roin Syiemiong, Ka Siang Syiemiong, Ka Labon Syiemiong and Ka Shuna Syiemiong and the Syiemlieh (not Langrin Syiemlieh) clan of Langrin Syiemship. The Syiemlieh clan of Langrin Syiemship has become extinct since the death of (L) U Dolising Syiem.
- (24) “Bar Jylla or Dkhar” means any person who does not belong to the Khasi community excluding a Garo resided within the territorial jurisdiction of Langrin Syiemship before the commencement of this Rules.

3(1).Qualifications for the Office of Syiem, Acting Syiem or Deputy Syiem:

In addition to the qualifications provided in the Act, a candidate Syiem or Acting Syiem including Deputy Syiem should be a genuine resident of the Hima who reside and settle permanently in any recognized village of the Syiemship and: -

- (i) He is well conversant with the customary laws, practices and usages in vogue in the Syiemship.
- (ii) He is well acquainted with the territorial, judicial and administrative system of the Syiemship.
- (iii) He observes and is governed by Khasi matrilineal system of lineage, the Khasi Laws of inheritance and succession.
- (iv) He is able to read, write and speak the Khasi language.
- (v) He must not be lame, deaf, dumb, blind man or in any manner physically handicapped.

The Syiem clans eligible to nominate the Syiem, Deputy Syiem or Acting Syiem of Langrin according to prevailing custom and tradition followed from ancient time are the ‘**Syiemiong clan**’ who are the descendants from the rightful womb of “Ka Roin Syiemiong, Ka Labon Syiemiong, Ka Siang Syiemiong and Ka Shuna Syiemiong”, and the ‘**Syiemlieh clan**’ (not Langrin Syiemlieh). The traditional custom of heirship or the Rules of succession of the Syiem, Deputy Syiem or Acting Syiem of Langrin Syiemship shall be as per the Act and the Rules made there under. However, the Syiemlieh clan has become extinct since the death of (L) U Dolising Syiem.

3(2). Nomination and Election for the Office of Syiem: -

(i) In case of any vacancy in the Office of Syiem, the recognized elders of the Syiem clans may convene emergent meeting to nominate a candidate for Acting Syiem who fulfills the requisite qualifications aforesaid and forward the resolution of such meeting to the Executive Committee for appointment as per provisions of the Act and under these Rules.

(ii) The Executive Committee may appoint, or authorise any of its officers to be a Returning Officer for the purpose of conducting the Election. The Executive Committee shall also appoint Presiding Officers, Polling Officers and such other Officers required for assisting the Executive Committee or the Returning Officer in the presiding at the election and shall prepare ballot papers, symbols and take all necessary steps for smooth conduct of election.

(iii) **Preparation of Voter List:** The electors comprise of the Khasi adult males of the Syiemship which include the Lyngdoh, Myntri and Sordar duly recognized by the Syiem and Dorbar and confirmed by the Executive Committee. The Sordar shall prepare a list of recognised Khasi male adults residing in a village and submit to the Syiem and Dorbar which after verification and correction forward to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall scrutinize and make any other necessary modifications, publish and notify for claims and objection at least 30 days public notice. On receipt of written petition the Executive Committee shall take necessary step to dispose such claims and objections. The electoral roll published as final and containing the seal of the District Council shall officially be recognised and use for the election.

When the voter list is finalized, the Executive Committee shall after consultation with the elders, call for filing nomination and scrutiny of candidate desiring to contest for the post of Syiem. Eligible candidates must apply in a prescribed form duly recommended by Syiem clan

concerned along with the nomination fees (not refundable) as may be prescribed by the Executive Committee.

(iv) **Place of election and Method of Voting:** Election of Syiem must be held at the earliest in consultation with Durbar Hima and the elders of the Syiem clan. The date of election must be notified at least 30 (thirty) days and the election be held in the Office of the Hima at Phlangdiloin or any other place within the Syiemship.

Voting shall be by secret ballot on a symbol system and is determined by a simple majority of the electors who are physically present on the date and time fixed for the election. Each voter shall be entitle to only one vote who shall cast his vote in person. Voting by proxy is not allowed and no voter shall be allowed to vote after the close of the polling booth with the exception of those who were present inside the polling booth of the polling station before the close of the poll.

Provided that the Presiding Officer shall issue slips bearing his signature, to all those voters who were present at the polling booth five minutes before the closing hour and who have not casted their votes.

(v) The Polling Officer shall, as soon as the elector enters the Polling Station ascertain his name and address and such other particulars as appear on the electoral roll, shall call out the number, name and description of the elector according to the entry in the roll. He shall then take out a ballot paper stamped with District Council seal on the back (i.e. on the side of it which does not contain the names and symbols of the candidates), first fold it vertically in the middle, unfold it again and hand it over to the elector with the instrument for marking the ballot paper.

The Polling Officer shall, at the time of delivery of the ballot paper to the elector, put down the serial number of the ballot papers against the name of that elector in the electoral roll to indicate that a ballot paper has been issued to him.

In deciding the right of a person to obtain a ballot paper under this Rule, the Presiding Officer may interpret an entry in the electoral roll so as to overlook clerical or printing errors, provided he is satisfied that such person is identified as the elector to whom such entry relates.

(vi) The voter on receiving the ballot paper and marking instrument shall go inside the polling compartment and record his vote by stamping one mark only on or against the symbol of the candidate for whom he wishes to vote and then fold it in the same manner as it was indicated by the polling officer at the time of issue and come out of the polling compartment with the folded ballot

paper and insert it (the ballot paper) into the ballot box. If the folded ballot paper is too long and inconvenient to insert in the ballot paper he may fold it a second time horizontally before inserting it in the box.

(vii) **Recording of votes:-**

After the close of the poll, the Presiding Officer shall count the votes in the presence of the candidates and/or their agents. Each candidate shall be entitled to have not more than two agents at the time of counting. The box shall be opened after the Presiding Officer and the candidates and/or their agents have satisfied themselves that the box or boxes are in order and in good condition.

The Presiding Officer shall allow the candidates and/or their agents who may be present reasonable opportunity to inspect all ballot papers which in the opinion of the Presiding Officer are liable to be rejected but shall not allow them to handle those or any other ballot papers. The Presiding Officer shall on every ballot paper which is rejected, endorse the word “rejected” recording briefly on such ballot paper the ground for its rejection.

The valid ballot papers found in the box or boxes shall be counted and kept in separate envelopes writing the name of the candidate on each and sealed. The rejected ballot papers of each of the candidates shall also similarly be kept in separate named envelope and sealed.

(viii) **Grounds of rejection of ballot papers:** - A ballot paper shall be rejected if,

- (a) It does not contain the District Council seal on its back.
- (b) It is a spurious ballot paper.
- (c) It has been so damaged or mutilated that its identity as a genuine ballot paper cannot be established.
- (d) No vote is recorded or if the votes are given in favour of more than one candidate or if the marks indicating the vote thereon is placed in such manner as to make it doubtful for which candidate the vote has been given or voted for.

(ix) **Statement of ballot papers** found in the box or boxes:-

A statement of ballot papers valid and rejected found in the box or boxes shall be prepared by the Presiding Officer and be countersigned by the candidate/agent against the total votes polled by him/his candidate.

The Presiding Officer shall, after preparing the statement as mentioned above and in the presence of any of the candidates or their agents who may be present make up into separate packets the unused ballot papers, the tendered ballot papers, the returned ballot papers, the marked copy of the electoral roll, the tendered vote list, the list of challenged votes and any other paper directed by

the Executive Committee to be kept in sealed packets, and shall seal each such packets with his own seal and the seals of such candidates or polling agents as may desire to affix their seals thereon.

(x) **Prohibitions:** Canvassing either for or against any candidate is prohibited during election day and a day preceding the election day and no canvassing of any sort is allowed within the polling area on the polling day either by words, loudspeakers, posters, signs and gestures, writing or inscriptions.

4. Election and qualification for the Post of Lyngdoh, Myntri or Sordar Shnong:

(1) An adult Khasi male may be appointed as a Lyngdoh or a Myntri or a Sordar Shnong whenever vacancy arises, as the case may be, and must in addition to provisions of the Act, fulfill the following qualifications: -

(i) He observes and is governed by Khasi matrilineal system of lineage, the Khasi Laws of inheritance and succession.

(ii) He is a permanent resident of a village for which he desires to be the Sordar.

(iii) He bears a good moral character and commands social respect in the village or Syiemship.

(iv) He is well acquainted with the customary laws, practices and usages in vogue in the Syiemship.

(v) He is well acquainted with the territorial, judicial and administrative system of the Syiemship.

(vi) He must not be lame, deaf, dumb, blind man or in any manner physically handicapped.

(vii) A Lyngdoh or a Myntri must be elected / nominated by the Durbar Kur of the Lyngdoh clan or the Myntri clan concerned, and a Sordar by the Durbar Shnong concerned, as the case may be.

(2) A Lyngdoh or a Myntri is elected by the Durbar Kur comprising of the recognized adult members of the Lyngdoh clan or the Myntri clan concerned, duly approve by the Syiem and Durbar. Election may be held on any convenient place within the Hima, as may be decided by Syiem and Durbar in consultation with the Rangbah Kur/Elders of the clan concerned, with not less than 20 (twenty) days public notice. The result shall be determined on simple majority of the members who are present and participate in the election. Requisite fees may be as prescribe by the Hima and the result is declared by the Office of Syiem immediately or not later than two days from the date of election.

- (3) A Lyngdoh or a Myntri may remain in Office as long as he enjoys the confidence of the majority members of the Lyngdoh or Myntri clan concerned. However, he may be removed or placed under suspension by the Syiem and Durbar, in case of a written complaint on valid grounds or if he violates any of the terms and conditions prescribed in the Sanad or if he has lost confidence of the majority in a referendum.
- (4) A Sordar is elected by the adult male residents of a village as electors duly confirmed by the Syiem and Durbar. A list of the eligible adult member of the village is prepared, with not less than 15 (fifteen) days public notice for general information and for claim and objection. When the voter list is finalized, the Syiem and Durbar shall after consultation with village elders concerned, call for filing nomination and scrutiny of candidate, then fix the date and time and appoint the official to conduct the election with not less than 7 (seven) days public notice. The election is conducted, as per custom, within the village and is determined by counting of heads or as may be agreed upon and the result is declared on basis of simple majority of the voters who are present and participate in the election. The Syiem and Durbar shall, as per custom take all necessary steps and prescribe the requisite fees as deem necessary and if there is only one candidate, may declare the result immediately or not later than two days from the date of election and issue appointment order (Sanad) with intimation to the Executive Committee.

Any person aggrieved of the order of the Syiem may file an appeal before the Executive Committee within thirty days along with prescribed fees.

5. Powers and Functions of the Durbar Hima and the Executive Durbar Hima: -

The Syiem is the Traditional Head of Langrin Syiemship since time immemorial. He is assisted by the Executive Durbar in the day-to-day administration of the Hima with some Myntri, Lyngdoh or Sordar Shnong/elder as may be nominated by the Syiem or Acting Syiem.

- (1) The Durbar Hima is the highest and final authority for policy decision in all important matters concerning the Syiemship. It comprises of the Syiem, the Deputy Syiem, Lyngdoh, Myntri and Sordar Shnong or Secretary Shnong if the Sordar is not able to attend. All important decisions pertaining to the interest and welfare of the Syiemship such as any action affecting territorial area of the Hima, lease or mortgage of any land or immovable property of Hima and policy matters involving customs are always discussed and decide in the open

Durbar Hima. The Syiem and Durbar have a discretionary right to invite any elders of the Hima to attend and be present in the Durbar Hima.

The ***Durbar Hima*** is normally convened at least once a year preferably in between the last week of March or the first week of April of each year. However, on the advice of the Executive Durbar, a special Durbar Hima may be convened whenever urgency arises. The date and time of the Durbar must be informed to all members not less than 15 (fifteen) days along with the agenda. No party system is allowed and matters place in the Durbar are taken by unanimous decision or by simple majority of the members present. Participation in a Durbar is practically acted out by standing and speaking one at a time. Shouts of exultations or indecent attempts to put down the orator of the opposites party are forbidden. All resolutions and decisions of the Durbar are recorded in writing in a register along with the names and signatures of the members who have attended the Durbar. Khasi is the official language; however, local Khasi language spoken in any village within the Hima may be used for discussion in a Durbar. The composition, quorum etc., of the Durbar must not be less than one half of the member or as may be determined by Durbar Hima. The Syiem/Acting Syiem as Chairman has all necessary powers to maintain the decorum and sanctity of the Durbar and may order persons who disturb or use foul languages under the influence of liquor to be debarred and removed from the Durbar with fine as may be decided.

(2) **The Executive Durbar Hima popularly known as Durbar Syiem** comprises of the Syiem, Deputy Syiem and some Lyngdoh or Myntri along with the Secretary Hima as may be constituted by the Durbar Hima and approved by the Executive Committee. The Executive Durbar exercises all executive functions in the day-to-day administration as may be authorized and sanctioned by the Durbar Hima. The quorum of the Executive Dorbar must not be less than one half of the total members. It is convened at least once in three months or as may be necessary and is generally presided by the Syiem or Acting Syiem. The members shall be intimated of the date and time of the meeting along with the agenda not less than three days. The members present in the Durbar must sign in the register maintain for the purpose along with the records and proceeding which must be confirmed by the Durbar Hima.

The Executive Dorbar is responsible to formulate the policy of the Hima and prepare the annual budget to be placed in the Dorbar Hima for discussion and decision. Decision duly

approved by the Dorbar Hima are implemented by the Executive Dorbar such as appointment order (Sanad) with terms and conditions of Lyngdohs, Myntris and Sordar within its jurisdiction, duly elected or nominated as per customs and the provision of the Act and Rules with intimation to the Executive Committee. All order and decisions must be signed by the Syiem or Acting Syiem with official seal and designation or as may be determined by the Dorbar Hima.

- (3) The Syiem or Acting Syiem alongwith the Executive Durbar is collectively responsible for all executive actions pertaining with the affairs of the Hima. The successors Syiem or Acting Syiem shall in any matters pertaining to the welfare of the Syiemship, honour the decisions/resolution undertaken by the predecessor Syiem or Acting Syiem. The Syiem or Acting Syiem in Office cannot unilaterally take any important decision without the knowledge of the Executive Durbar duly authorized by Durbar Hima.
- (4) (i) The Syiem or Acting Syiem and the Deputy Syiem have the power and right as per the customary practice in-vogue for recommendation and attestation of documents.
- (ii) Any Lyngdoh or Myntri or Sordar or Headman of the Syiemship elected and appointed as such under the provision of the Act and these Rules shall as per customary practices in-vogue have the right and power to recommend or to issue a village residential certificate (V.R.C) to the villagers residing in their respective villages or areas.
- (iii) No village residential certificate (VRC) shall be issued to a 'Dkhar'

6. Village Administration: Hima Langrin comprises of many villages which are the basic components at the grass root level. Each village must be recognized by the Syiem and Durbar and has a Sordar with Durbar Shnong which function within the respective territorial jurisdiction as per prevailing custom or as may be decided by Durbar Hima.

- (1) All recognized villages have a Durbar Shnong with Sordar or Rangbah Shnong, as the head, duly constituted as per custom and recognized as such by the Syiem and Durbar. Only a Khasi male head/male adult is eligible to participate in the Durbar Shnong at least once a year or as necessary with not less than 15 (Fifteen) days public notice. A Durbar Shnong is normally presided by a Sordar or Rangbah Shnong.

In case of an emergency, the Syiem and Durbar may authorize the Executive Durbar of the village to convene a village Durbar with not less than 3 (Three) days of public notice.

- (2) The Durbar Shnong is the Supreme authority in all matters concerning the village and comprises of all Khasi male adult as head of households. No party system is allowed in the

Durbar and all village affairs are discussed in open Durbar and a deliberated decision is normally arrived on consensus or on simple majority of members present. Not less than one third (1/3) of the members present in the Durbar must constitute the quorum. Khasi is the official language even though Khasi language spoken in the village may be allowed for discussion in a Durbar. All decisions and proceedings of the Durbar must be recorded in a register maintain for the purpose with signatures of the members present. A Durbar Shnong is the final authority in taking any decision for the welfare of the villagers through open Durbar. Persons who disturb or use foul language are debarred from Durbar with fine as may be imposed by the Durbar Shnong.

- (3) (i) Composition and function of the Executive Durbar Shnong – The Executive Durbar shall be constituted by Dorbar Shnong and compose of not less than 5 members for a small village and not more than 15 members for a big village to be approved by the Syiem and Dorbar for a period of three years from the date of approval provided that the Sordar remains the same. The quorum shall be 1/3 of the total members. The Executive Durbar Shnong is empowered to implement the resolution and decisions of the Durbar Shnong, to plan developmental activities, to prepare reports to be presented in the annual Durbar Shnong, etc.
- (ii) Village Court takes up judicial decision arising in a village concerned, and is constituted and functions as per provision of the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills Autonomous District (Administration of Justice) Rules, 1953, as amended.
- (4) A duly appointed Sordar of a village function under its jurisdiction and execute all decisions of the village Durbar. All official orders and decisions of Durbar Shnong must bear the seal and designation of the Sordar on behalf of the Durbar Shnong and not in the individual capacity. Any order issued in the personal capacity of the Sordar without the decision of Durbar has no effect and be taken as against the decision of the Dorbar Shnong.
- (5) A Sordar shnong may hold office as long as he enjoys the confidence of the majority residents and is eligible for re-election, provided that he may be removed or suspended by the Syiem and Durbar in case of written complain petition or if he violate any of the terms and conditions prescribed in the Sanad. In case of dispute, the Syiem and Durbar may conduct a referendum in the village with not less than 7 days public notice.

- (6) A Sordar shnong who has lost the confidence of the majority of the residents of the village must hand over all properties of the village to the Secretary Shnong. A new Sordar is elected in presence of the Officials of the Hima as per rule above. If for any reason a regular Sordar cannot be appointed, the Syiem and Durbar may in consultation with the villagers appoint Acting Sordar from the elders of village. There must be handing and taking over charge of the property/materials of the village by the preceding Sordar to the succeeding Sordar in the presence of the elders of the village with a report before the Durbar and information to the Syiem and Durbar.
- (7) In a village where Khasi community (U Khun u hajar) and non – Khasi (U Khun u raiot) are residing, a Sordar or a Rangbah Shnong, shall be elected from amongst the resident belonging to Khasi community only.
- (8) As per the prevailing customs which have been in practice in the Syiemship, formation of any new village must be confirmed/approved by the Syiem and his Dorbar. In case of bifurcation of a locality or Dong (Kyntoit) into a separate village, the parent village must give written consent along with the decision/resolution and a clear boundary duly recommended and approved by the Syiem and his Durbar and confirmed by the Executive Committee as per the Khasi Hills Autonomous District (Administration of Elaka) Act 1991 as amended.

7. Financial function including preparation of Budget and Maintenance of Account: -

- (1) The Syiem and Durbar prepare the annual budget of the Syiemship indicating there in the anticipated receipts and expenditures for a given financial year accruable from all revenue sources of the Syiemship. The Annual financial year of the Hima is as adopted by the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council.

The Syiemship have the right to accept any form of funding either from the Executive Committee, the State or Central Government or any other Agency/Institution and incorporate the same in its Budget.

- (2) All fund of the Syiemship must be kept in a joint account in any recognized Bank to be operated by the Syiem or Acting Syiem with at least one member of the Executive Dorbar. A

maximum cash in hand for an amount of Rs. 10,000/- be placed at the disposal of the Syiem and Durbar for emergency expense.

- (3) All receipt and expenditure must be audited regularly and annually by authorized officials and if necessary by an external auditor as decided by the Syiem and his Durbar. The audited report must be placed for discussion in the Executive Durbar and to be approved by the Durbar Hima.
- (4) Each village has its own fund with proper records of all receipts and expenditure which is normally reported before the Durbar Shnong once in a year or as deem necessary. Any payment pertaining to the affairs of the village including honorarium to Sordar and members of the Durbar may be as decided by the Durbar Shnong.

8. Revenue Administration:

1) The Syiem and Durbar have the right to collect a customary toll called “Ka Musur” and “Ka Bainguh Syiem” for all types of commercial goods, including Certificate of Origin (CO) on all forest produces at any revenue station authorized by the Syiem and Durbar. Such revenue station may be set up on any route, road, footpath constructed by Government Department or Organization within the area of the Syiemship with intimation to the appropriate authorities concerned.

The Syiem and Durbar may if required, obtain permission from the appropriate authority provided that the above proviso shall not apply for existing revenue collection in the Syiemship which have been allowed by authority concerned before the commencement of these Rules.

2) The Syiem and his Durbar have the right to erect check point at any exit point within the area of the Syiemship to protect and guard the territorial area including checking the entry and exit of illegal items/goods such as bootleggers as well as checking of non-tribal infiltration to maintain the social, political and economic integrity of the Syiemship.

3) The right to collect customary toll and market tolls shall, as far as practicable, be settled by public auction through notice inviting tender under certain terms and condition as may be decided by the Syiem and Dorbar. The Notice Inviting Tenders must be widely notify with not less than 15 (fifteen) days of the auction date with approval of the Executive Committee.

The lease of revenue of the Syiemship may be settled within the month of March to be effective from 1st April of each year. The highest offer will be the successful bidder and the lease amount be deposited in the account of the Syiemship in full or as may be decided by the Syiem and Durbar. However, the Syiem and Durbar do not bind themselves to accept or reject any or all tenders. Provided that if situation so arises due to exigency of fund the lease shall be settled as may be decided by the Syiem and Durbar with approval of the Executive Committee.

4) The Syiem and Durbar have the right to establish any Syiemship market(s) within the Syiemship and regulating of such markets including the levy and collection of customary tolls on the entry of good into such markets is under the administrative control and management of the Syiem and his Durbar, in accordance with the provision of the Khasi Hills District (Establishment, management and control of market) Regulation 1979, as amended.

Further no market/customary toll are collected in respect of essential commodities meant for personal consumption.

5) As far as regulation, management and control of forest is concerned, the Syiem and his Durbar shall implement/apply the relevant provision of the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills Autonomous District (Management and Control of Forests) Act, 1958, as amended.

6) An appeal against any order passed by the Syiem and Durbar under these Rules shall lie to the Executive Committee. Such appeal shall be filed within 30 (thirty) days from the date of receipt of such order alongwith the appeal fee as may be prescribed.

The Executive Committee may condone the period of 30 (thirty) days if there is sufficient and reasonable reasons.

7) All Khuti-Wala who keep and rear cattle mainly for the purpose of business within any area of the Syiemship shall have to pay the “Khajna Ri Jingri” as may be prescribed by the Syiem and Durbar.

9. Land Administration: All land within Langrin Syiemship are classified as “Ri Kynti” or “Ri Kur” owned by private party or clan and “Raid land such as “Raid Mawtheng” which is under the management and control of the Syiem and Durbar.

1) The Syiem and his Durbar have the customary right to register land and to issue land holding certificate of all land situated within the territorial jurisdiction of the Syiemship on payment of a nominal prescribed fee. Registration of any land and issuance of land holding

certificate or No Objection Certificate within the Syiemship must be done only after causing a spot enquiry by an authorized official or a written recommendation of the Sordar in which the land is situated in presence of land owner. The Syiem and Durbar shall on application issue certificate on basis of the report/recommendation alongwith a nominal fee as may be prescribed by the Syiem and Durbar.

Public notice of not less than 30 (thirty) days be displayed in the Office of the Hima and within the village, where the land is situated for claim and objection.

2) No land situated within the Syiemship shall be transferred by way of lease, sub-lease mortgage etc to non tribal without the knowledge and approval of the Syiem and Durbar.

10. Miscellaneous:

1) Any amendment of these Rules must be decide by the Durbar Hima convened for the purpose with at least 30 days public notice which shall be discussed and passed by a majority of not less than $\frac{3}{4}$ of the members present. No additions or deletions of these Rules shall be made without the decision of the Syiem and Durbar Hima.

2) As per custom, any complaint against a Syiem must be brought to the knowledge of the Durbar by a Lyngdoh or a Myntri which shall be discussed in the Durbar convene for the purpose. A Lyngdoh or a Myntri cannot directly complaint against a Syiem or the functioning of the Durbar without the knowledge or discussion in the Durbar Hima or Durbar Syiem. Violation of these provisions by any person who claim himself as self styled Lyngdoh or Myntri and miss-use official seal of any duly appointed Lyngdoh or Myntri is treated as a criminal act, and stern action shall be taken against him/her as the Syiem and Durbar may decide.

3) No intoxicating drinks/items such as liquor (local made or IFML, etc.) shall be made or brought for sale within any village or market within the jurisdiction of the Syiemship, without a license/no objection certificate issued by the Syiem and Durbar.

4) No Private individual non-tribal or Bar Jylla or group including firms or companies or Association or Organization or any societies is allowed to carry out any business/work or to set up Factories/Industries or open up Bonded Warehouse, Wine Stores, Playwin, Teer Counter (Thoh team), Online lottery, Jack Pot, Video/Cinema Hall, etc including Fete, Mela, festivals, competation or any function within any area under the territorial jurisdiction of Langrin

Syiemship without obtaining prior permission from the Syiem and Durbar. This provision may apply to the Khasi community as may be decided by the Syiem and his Durbar. Benami transaction of any form is strictly prohibited and any violation be punished as per law or as may be decided by the Durbar Hima.

5) No land owners/land holders shall in any manner create obstruction or destroy any source of drinking water or any existing “Lynti Shnong” duly recognized as such within any village of the Syiemship.

6) Non Tribal is not allowed to permanently settle within any area under the territorial jurisdiction of Langrin Syiemship without valid documents issued by the Syiem and Durbar. More over non tribal traders or labourers shall have to furnish the identity proof as may be prescribed or required by the Syiem and his Durbar such as Election Photo Identity Card, Police verification, etc.

11. Powers of the Executive Durbar: - Any affair or matter of the Syiemship which does not come within the specific operation of these rules or other rules shall be decided separately by the Executive Durbar or Durbar Hima as the case may be which is inclusive of the imposition of fines, violation of these rules or laws, Act, en-actment, ordinance rules, regulation, bye-law, order, notification, scheme or other existing instruments.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

It is considered expedient to safeguard and preserve the customary practices prevailing in Langrin Syiemship which have been in practices since time immemorial in matter relating to the nomination and election of the Syiem, Deputy Syiem and Headmen as well as land and revenue administration of Langrin Syiemship.

Certified that the Administration of Langrin Syiemship Rules 2010 passed by the Syiem and Durbar of Langrin Syiemship on the 11th December, 2010 has been approved by the Executive Committee, Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council.

P. N. SYIEM,
Chief Executive Member,
Khasi Hills Autonomous District
Council.